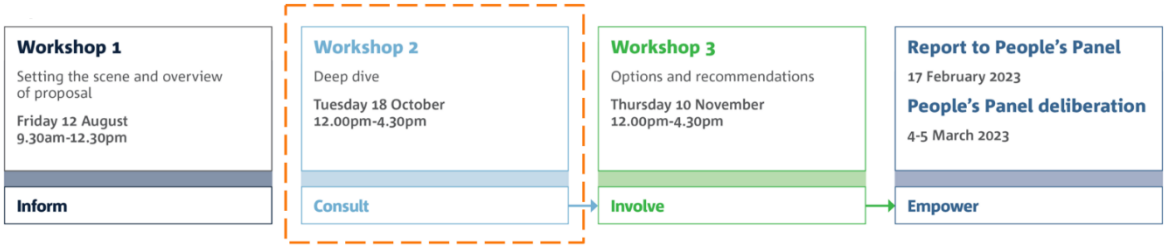
Agenda and Overview
Reset 2025-30: Energy Transition Workshop 2

Date: Tuesday 18 October 2022
Time: 12pm-4.30pm
Venue: The Terrace Hotel, 208 South Terrace Adelaide

Time	Item
12-12.30pm	**Arrival, lunch (optional)**
12.30-12.45pm	**Welcome and Introductions** • Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country • Overview of today • Reset process
12.45-1pm	**Refresh: Energy Transition topic**
1-2.30pm	**Enabling Clean Energy** • Recap – what we heard in Workshop 1 • Deep dive on DER integration expenditure
2.30-2.45pm	**Break**
2.45-3pm	**Empowering Our Customers** • Recap – what we heard in Workshop 1 • Summary of discussions and outcomes from other focused conversations (*Equity & Vulnerable Customers* and *Customer Experience*)
3–4.25pm	**Enabling Electric Vehicles** • Recap – what we heard in Workshop 1 • Deep dive on EVs
4.25pm	**Wrap up** • Final questions, comments? • Next steps, close

Focussed Conversation Overview

This Focussed Conversation (workshop) is the second of three in the Energy Transition stream in Reset 2025-30 engagement, focussing on what SA Power Networks needs to do to continue to support South Australia's transition to a clean energy future.



Invitees include customer representatives and stakeholders from business, government, the renewables sector and SA Power Networks' consumer representative groups, along with observers from the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) and AER Consumer Challenge Panel (CCP30).

Purpose

The purpose of this workshop is for participants to:

- Deep dive and discuss the key topics identified in Focussed Conversation #1
    - Learn more about how we model and forecast expenditure, and the options we are considering for investment in 2025-30
    - Address questions captured in Focussed Conversation #1
    - Workshop key options under consideration in group discussions
- Receive updates on some specific programs discussed in Focussed Conversation #1 that have been canvassed in other workshops
- Identify any key issues that need to be resolved and further evidence we need to bring to Focussed Conversation #3 in November in order to make recommendations.

Feedback from this workshop will be used to narrow and further refine investment opportunities to support South Australia's energy transition, for final discussion and endorsement at Focussed Conversation #3, and to inform the final report and recommendations for the deliberative People's Panel later this year.

Background: the Energy Transition

As South Australia's electricity distribution network operator, SA Power Networks has a key role to play in supporting and enabling the energy transition that is already well underway. South Australia leads the nation with the highest uptake of rooftop solar per capita, and more than 63% of the State's energy needs were met by renewables by 2021.

The way we plan, build and operate the network is changing as the grid evolves into an increasingly distributed, two-way energy system. We are developing innovative solutions to help manage our network, enable more solar, and facilitate new energy services, while also making sure we continue to provide a safe, reliable and affordable network to act as a solid foundation for the new energy future.

As we move to an electrified future, the challenge for SA Power Networks is to support our customers' changing energy needs while keeping costs down, which means maximising the opportunity to get the most out of the existing network capacity as well as making targeted investments to upgrade to ensure we can continue to deliver the level of service our customers want and expect.

Recap – Focussed Conversation #1

In Focussed Conversation #1 (12 August) we began with an overview of the changing energy system in South Australia and the key role our network plays in enabling the transition to renewable energy and a low-carbon economy. We shared our vision of the future; that if we manage this transition well, we can help create a future where we can transition to 100% renewable electricity while also lowering energy costs for customers.

We then outlined and discussed our plans for 2025-30 period in three topic areas:

- Enabling Clean Energy
    - What are we planning to do to continue to support the uptake of rooftop solar and other customer energy resources?
    - What level of service should we be aiming for?
    - What might that cost, and what does it mean for tariffs?
- Empowering our Customers
    - How can we help customers make the most of their flexible loads and other resources?
    - What new customer services might we offer?
- Enabling the Electric Vehicle Transition
    - How can we best support and enable cost-effective EV charging at home and in public?
    - Transitioning our own vehicle fleet to EVs.

Through our conversations on each topic we identified key areas of interest to discuss in more detail in subsequent Focussed Conversations. We also captured initial opinions, questions and concerns to bring forward for further discussion.

This Focussed Conversation

Focussed Conversation #2 is structured around the three topic areas established in the first workshop.

Enabling Clean Energy

We will share more details of our proposed approach to investment in enabling more solar and other Distributed Energy Resources (DER) on the network, and how we intend to apply the principles set out by the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) in its *DER Integration Expenditure Guidance Note*. This is concerned with the provision of what the AER refers to as the *export service* – that is, the capacity we provide for solar and other DER customers to feed energy into the network.

We will need to invest in upgrades and new systems to add 'upstream' capacity to the network to keep pace with the growth of solar in the 2025-30 period, but we want to do this as efficiently as possible. If we invest too much, customer bills will be impacted. If we invest too little and fail to maintain enough capacity in the network, solar customers will be limited in how much they can feed in at certain times.

In this workshop we will 'deep dive' on:

- Our approach to forecasting future demand for energy exports, and modelling the impact on our network assets and the investments we may need to make
- Opportunities to shift load into the daytime to soak up excess solar to reduce the amount of investment required in new network capacity
- Future service levels for DER customers.

Through this discussion will also seek to respond to specific questions raised in Focussed Conversation #1.

Participants will be asked to consider:

- Do you agree with our approach to forecasting demand for export capacity? Is there anything we have not considered?
- Does our proposed approach to expressing the level of service we provide to DER customers make sense?
- Should we only seek to provide a level of service we consider to be economic?
- How important is equity of access?
- Are there better options to support a pathway of increasing DER and electrification which addresses customer and stakeholders' needs whilst balancing the needs of the future distribution network?
- Is there anything else you need to make recommendation on options at Focussed Conversation #3?

Empowering our Customers

In our first discussion, we outlined several initiatives that we are considering that could provide enhanced services or new opportunities for our customers as the energy system transitions. Since that workshop have canvassed some of these in detail with stakeholders in our *Equity and Vulnerable Customers,* and *Customer Experience* Focussed Conversations.

In this Focussed Conversation we will briefly share the outcomes of those discussions, in relation to the following proposed initiatives:

- New customer services
- Solar for rentals
- Community energy fund
- Energy advisory services

Enabling the Electric Vehicle Transition

We will share more details of how we propose to play our part in enabling the South Australian Government's vision to accelerate the transition to Electric Vehicles (EVs) in South Australia. The Government's *Electric Vehicle Action Plan* recognises that the efficient integration of EVs with the electricity network will be important in minimising costs and maximising the benefits to individual vehicle owners and the broader community of switching to EVs.

In this workshop we will 'deep dive' on:

- Enabling and encouraging smart charging
- Our role in supporting public charging infrastructure
- Our approach to transitioning our own EV fleet.

Participants will be asked to consider further some of the questions introduced in Focussed Conversation 1:

- Do you support our approach to smart charging?
- Should we consider hosting third-party charging infrastructure on our assets?
- Are there situations where we expect there will be a need for a provider of last resort?
- Should we be taking a leadership role in the transition of our own vehicle fleet to electric?
- Is there anything else you need to make recommendation on options at Focussed Conversation #3?

Quick Links and pre-reading

- Energy Transition Workshop 1 materials
  - Participant Pre-Read Pack
  - Presentation
  - Session notes
  - Video recording

- Additional pre-reading for Workshop 2 (optional)
  - The AER *DER Integration Expenditure Guidance Note*
  - The SA Government's *EV Action Plan*

Next Steps

Following Focussed Conversation #2, we will complete analysis, prepare responses to outstanding feedback and questions, and bring back specific investment options to Focussed Conversation #3 (10 November, 12-4.30pm) for participants to discuss and consider, with a view to agreeing preferred options for recommendation to the deliberative People's Panel.